

Message

## ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY REPORT

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Report Highlights

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## Highlights

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### LEADING THE NEWS

#### Delays in Offshore Wind Development Feared Due to Shutdown (1)

By Bobby Magill

The offshore wind industry is beginning to fear that the government shutdown could delay and complicate offshore wind farm development off Martha's Vineyard and elsewhere in the Northeast, where construction depends on tight Interior Department approval schedules.

#### National Parks May Take at Least a Year to Recover From Shutdown

By Rebecca Kern

The nearly monthlong partial federal government shutdown is putting the National Park Service behind on prescribed burning ahead of wildfire season and seasonal hiring, a former agency head said.

## **PG&E May Be Business World's Biggest Climate-Change Casualty Yet**

By Brian Eckhouse and Eric Roston

First, more than a decade ago, severe weather bankrupted an electric company in New Orleans. Then it helped take down one in Houston. Now, in California, it has pushed PG&E Corp. to the brink, in the biggest warning yet about the financial risks of climate change.

## **Pesticide Licensing Fraud in California's Crosshairs**

By Adam Allington

California is stepping up enforcement of pesticide licensing laws.

## **New Congress, New House Push for Environmental Civil Rights**

By David Schultz

The new 116th Congress may spend more time examining the intersection of race and the environment, and specifically look at how poor and minority communities are affected by climate change.

## **TODAY'S NEWS**

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### **Green Infrastructure Bill Gets Trump's Signature**

By David Schultz

It will now be easier for cities to use rain gardens, wetlands, or some other type of natural system to deal with stormwater runoff after President Donald Trump signed a green infrastructure bill into law Jan. 14.

### **House Bill Seeks Fluorinated Chemical Cleanup Power for EPA**

By Sylvia Carignan

Three Michigan members of Congress want to set a deadline for EPA to start ordering the cleanup of a ubiquitous family of chemicals through Superfund law.

## **Endangered Bumble Bee Lawsuit Filed Against Interior Department**

By Stephen Lee

Environmentalists are taking the Interior Department to court, alleging the agency hasn't carved out critical habitat for the endangered rusty patched bumble bee.

## **Skip Pollution Sensors Where Public Can't Go, Industry Says**

By Amena H. Saiyid

Petroleum refineries, chemical companies, and iron and steel manufacturers are seeking what they call a practical approach to monitoring air pollution: It should be done only in areas where the public is exposed to it.

## **PG&E Can't Escape Judge Whose Wildfire Risk Tolerance Is 'Zero'**

By Joel Rosenblatt

A federal judge who is commanding California utility giant PG&E Corp. not to spark any wildfires in 2019 is either doing his job to rein in a troubled company or he's assuming the role of a "super regulator."

## **Arizona Farmers Back Leaving Land Fallow to Keep Water Flowing**

By Brenna Goth

Farmers in central Arizona are willing to let more than a third of their land lay fallow under a state plan to cut their water supply to address the ongoing drought, but they're calling on lawmakers to ensure the industry survives.

## **Electric Vehicles Getting Cleaner Even Where Grids Rely on Coal**

By Jeremy Hodges

Electric cars are better for the environment than traditional gasoline models, and that benefit will grow as power generators shift away from coal.

### **Gas Export Company Makes Urgent Plea to Divided U.S. Regulators**

By Rachel Adams-Heard

A company that wants to export liquefied natural gas from Louisiana made an urgent plea to regulators to greenlight its proposal, which was tabled at a meeting last month amid speculation about a partisan divide at the main agency tasked with permitting energy projects.

### **Florida's Natural Orange Juice Glyphosate Suit Out for Good**

By Julie Steinberg

Citrus World Inc. and Florida's Natural Growers Inc. won't have to face a proposed class suit alleging "Florida's Natural" brand orange juice was misleadingly marketed because it contained trace amounts of the synthetic weedkiller glyphosate.

### **Tyson Foods Adopts Big Data to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

By Lydia Mulvany

Tyson Foods Inc., the biggest U.S. meat producer, and the Environmental Defense Fund plan to use cloud-based agricultural technologies to capture data from corn farms in a project to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

### **Six More Chemicals Listed as High Concern by European Agency**

By Stephen Gardner

The European Chemicals Agency added six hazardous substances Jan. 15 to a list of high concern chemicals under the European Union's REACH law, triggering new requirements for companies handling them.

## **EU System for Checking Chemicals in Food Seen as Falling Short**

By Stephen Gardner

Some chemicals in foods are rarely monitored in the European Union, and the whole system of checks on compliance with rules on some 8,000 substances is overstretched, the European Union's independent financial watchdog said Jan. 15.

## **German Coal States Pressure Merkel on Exit Risk to Power Prices**

By Brian Parkin and William Wilkes

German Chancellor Angela Merkel came under pressure Jan. 15 from the governors of Germany's coal regions, who urged her to manage an exit from the fossil fuel without sending power prices soaring and risking blackouts.

## **German Labor Union Chief Says Coal Commission Stuck on Money**

By William Wilkes and Brian Parkin

Germany's coal commission is stuck on the question of who pays for the investment needed to boost the economies of regions expected to be worst-hit by the country's coal exit, according to a senior member of the group tasked with plotting Germany's exit from the fossil fuel.

## **Saudi's Sovereign Fund to Invest in Giant Clean Power Unit**

By Anthony DiPaola and Mahmoud Habboush

Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund will develop the bulk of the kingdom's proposed renewable power projects, turning it into one of the region's biggest utility investors.

## **Thai Renewable Developer Eyes Boom in Asia-Pacific Region**

By Siraphob Thanthong-Knight

Thailand's BCPG Plc, Southeast Asia's second-largest renewable energy project developer, is planning a 20-fold expansion in wind power by adding plants in the Asia-Pacific region.

### Chesapeake, Equinor Lose Bid to Dismiss Gas Well Lease Case

By Steven M. Sellers

Chesapeake Appalachia LLC and Equinor USA Onshore Properties Inc. must face claims brought by Pennsylvania landowners that the companies aren't living up to mineral rights leases for oil and gas extraction, a federal court in Pennsylvania ruled.

## **MONDAY NIGHT WRAPUP**

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### Drought Plan Tops Arizona Governor's Priorities

By Brenna Goth

Protecting Arizona's share of the Colorado River after nearly two decades of drought is one of Republican Gov. Doug Ducey's top priorities this year, the governor told state lawmakers Jan. 14.

### Oregon Governor Makes Case for Cap and Trade

By Paul Shukovsky

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown (D) recited a litany of climate-change plagues in her state-of-the-state speech Jan. 14 and said she intends to sign a cap-and-trade program into law.

### Illinois to Tackle Climate Issues as New Governor Joins Alliance (1)

By Stephen Joyce

Newly inaugurated Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker (D) pledged to join the U.S. Climate Alliance, joining 17 other governors committing their states to fulfilling commitments in the landmark 2015 Paris climate agreement.

### Environmental Groups Lose Challenge to Atlantic Coast Pipeline

By Brian Flood

A host of environmental groups lost their legal challenge to the Virginia State Water Board's certification of an interstate natural gas pipeline.

### **Flounder Quota Unfairly Favors Southern States, N.Y. Says**

By Peter Hayes

A federal rule limiting New York's summer flounder quota to 7.6 percent of the national commercial catch for 2019 should be struck down, the state argued in a Jan. 14 filing.

### **Canada Backs Glyphosate Again After Tainted Science Complaint**

By James Munson

Canada's health authority defended its approval of a popular herbicide characterized as a possible carcinogen after environmental groups complained about improper industry interference in the government's review.



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